

## Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 53

### RESOLUTION CHAPTER 61

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 53—Relative to Disability Awareness Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 15, 2015.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 53, Galgiani. Disability awareness.

This measure would recognize the month of June 2015 as Disability Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, There are over 4,268,000 people with disabilities living in the State of California;

WHEREAS, The State of California does not currently recognize Disability Awareness Month, but municipalities throughout Stanislaus County recognize June 2015 as Disability Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Around 10 percent of the world's population, or 650 million people, live with a disability. They are the world's largest minority group; and

WHEREAS, Persons with disabilities constitute the only minority group you can join at any time; and

WHEREAS, Disabilities can affect all people, regardless of race, age, gender, or social status. The essence of life is not embodied by physical or mental perfection, but it is an integral part of the human spirit; and

WHEREAS, Increasing public awareness about diverse abilities is vital to fighting the stigma and discrimination that often serve as a barrier to employment, socialization, and individual well-being for persons with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Within the next year, at least one out of eight Californians will experience a disability, personally or through a family member; and

WHEREAS, People with different abilities are independent and productive members of the community. Education, understanding, access, engagement, and relationships are important components of a connected, livable, and healthy community. Communities thrive when residents appreciate the unique gifts inside people of all abilities. By developing relationships with our neighbors, we make our community a place where everyone participates and is a valued member; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring,* That the Legislature hereby recognizes the month of June 2015 as Disability Awareness Month, and urges all citizens of the state to become aware of the needs and capabilities of persons with disabilities; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.